
HOUSE BILL 1764

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Wylie and Orcutt

Read first time 02/06/23. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a method of valuing asphalt and
2 aggregate used in public road construction for purposes of taxation;
3 amending RCW 82.12.010; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that public road
6 construction and repair is vital to the continued development of
7 economic opportunity in this state.

8 (2) The legislature finds that the vast majority of public road
9 construction projects involve paving companies that self-manufacture
10 the asphalt and aggregates used in public road construction projects.
11 Because most of the asphalt and aggregates these companies produce is
12 used for their own public road construction projects, the legislature
13 finds there is no objective, consistent, and reliable information
14 regarding the market value of the asphalt and aggregates used in
15 public road construction projects.

16 (3) In light of the unique circumstances surrounding the
17 valuation of self-manufactured asphalt and aggregates incorporated
18 into public roads, the legislature intends to establish a method for
19 valuing asphalt and aggregates that reduces the burdens on taxpayers
20 and promotes certainty and consistency in the calculation of use

1 taxes on self-manufactured asphalt and aggregates across the paving
2 industry.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.12.010 and 2017 c 323 s 519 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter:

6 (1) The meaning ascribed to words and phrases in chapters 82.04
7 and 82.08 RCW, insofar as applicable, has full force and effect with
8 respect to taxes imposed under the provisions of this chapter.
9 "Consumer," in addition to the meaning ascribed to it in chapters
10 82.04 and 82.08 RCW insofar as applicable, also means any person who
11 distributes or displays, or causes to be distributed or displayed,
12 any article of tangible personal property, except newspapers, the
13 primary purpose of which is to promote the sale of products or
14 services. With respect to property distributed to persons within this
15 state by a consumer as defined in this subsection (1), the use of the
16 property is deemed to be by such consumer.

17 (2) "Extended warranty" has the same meaning as in RCW
18 82.04.050(7).

19 (3) "Purchase price" means the same as sales price as defined in
20 RCW 82.08.010.

21 (4) (a) (i) Except as provided in (a) (ii) of this subsection (4),
22 "retailer" means every seller as defined in RCW 82.08.010 and every
23 person engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property
24 at retail and every person required to collect from purchasers the
25 tax imposed under this chapter.

26 (ii) "Retailer" does not include a professional employer
27 organization when a covered employee coemployed with the client under
28 the terms of a professional employer agreement engages in activities
29 that constitute a sale of tangible personal property, extended
30 warranty, digital good, digital code, or a sale of any digital
31 automated service or service defined as a retail sale in RCW
32 82.04.050 (2) (a) or (g) or (6) (c) that is subject to the tax imposed
33 by this chapter. In such cases, the client, and not the professional
34 employer organization, is deemed to be the retailer and is
35 responsible for collecting and remitting the tax imposed by this
36 chapter.

37 (b) For the purposes of (a) of this subsection, the terms
38 "client," "covered employee," "professional employer agreement," and

1 "professional employer organization" have the same meanings as in RCW
2 82.04.540.

3 (5) "Taxpayer" and "purchaser" include all persons included
4 within the meaning of the word "buyer" and the word "consumer" as
5 defined in chapters 82.04 and 82.08 RCW.

6 (6) "Use," "used," "using," or "put to use" have their ordinary
7 meaning, and mean:

8 (a) With respect to tangible personal property, except for
9 natural gas and manufactured gas, the first act within this state by
10 which the taxpayer takes or assumes dominion or control over the
11 article of tangible personal property (as a consumer), and include
12 installation, storage, withdrawal from storage, distribution, or any
13 other act preparatory to subsequent actual use or consumption within
14 this state;

15 (b) With respect to a service defined in RCW 82.04.050(2)(a), the
16 first act within this state after the service has been performed by
17 which the taxpayer takes or assumes dominion or control over the
18 article of tangible personal property upon which the service was
19 performed (as a consumer), and includes installation, storage,
20 withdrawal from storage, distribution, or any other act preparatory
21 to subsequent actual use or consumption of the article within this
22 state;

23 (c) With respect to an extended warranty, the first act within
24 this state after the extended warranty has been acquired by which the
25 taxpayer takes or assumes dominion or control over the article of
26 tangible personal property to which the extended warranty applies,
27 and includes installation, storage, withdrawal from storage,
28 distribution, or any other act preparatory to subsequent actual use
29 or consumption of the article within this state;

30 (d) With respect to a digital good or digital code, the first act
31 within this state by which the taxpayer, as a consumer, views,
32 accesses, downloads, possesses, stores, opens, manipulates, or
33 otherwise uses or enjoys the digital good or digital code;

34 (e) With respect to a digital automated service, the first act
35 within this state by which the taxpayer, as a consumer, uses, enjoys,
36 or otherwise receives the benefit of the service;

37 (f) With respect to a service defined as a retail sale in RCW
38 82.04.050(6)(c), the first act within this state by which the
39 taxpayer, as a consumer, accesses the prewritten computer software;

1 (g) With respect to a service defined as a retail sale in RCW
2 82.04.050(2)(g), the first act within this state after the service
3 has been performed by which the taxpayer, as a consumer, views,
4 accesses, downloads, possesses, stores, opens, manipulates, or
5 otherwise uses or enjoys the digital good upon which the service was
6 performed; and

7 (h) With respect to natural gas or manufactured gas, the use of
8 which is taxable under RCW 82.12.022, including gas that is also
9 taxable under the authority of RCW 82.14.230, the first act within
10 this state by which the taxpayer consumes the gas by burning the gas
11 or storing the gas in the taxpayer's own facilities for later
12 consumption by the taxpayer.

13 (7)(a) "Value of the article used" is the purchase price for the
14 article of tangible personal property, the use of which is taxable
15 under this chapter. The term also includes, in addition to the
16 purchase price, the amount of any tariff or duty paid with respect to
17 the importation of the article used. In case the article used is
18 acquired by lease or by gift or is extracted, produced, or
19 manufactured by the person using the same or is sold under conditions
20 wherein the purchase price does not represent the true value thereof,
21 the value of the article used is determined as nearly as possible
22 according to the retail selling price at place of use of similar
23 products of like quality and character under such rules as the
24 department may prescribe.

25 (b) In case the articles used are acquired by bailment, the value
26 of the use of the articles so used must be in an amount representing
27 a reasonable rental for the use of the articles so bailed, determined
28 as nearly as possible according to the value of such use at the
29 places of use of similar products of like quality and character under
30 such rules as the department of revenue may prescribe. In case any
31 such articles of tangible personal property are used in respect to
32 the construction, repairing, decorating, or improving of, and which
33 become or are to become an ingredient or component of, new or
34 existing buildings or other structures under, upon, or above real
35 property of or for the United States, any instrumentality thereof, or
36 a county or city housing authority created pursuant to chapter 35.82
37 RCW, including the installing or attaching of any such articles
38 therein or thereto, whether or not such personal property becomes a
39 part of the realty by virtue of installation, then the value of the
40 use of such articles so used is determined according to the retail

1 selling price of such articles, or in the absence of such a selling
2 price, as nearly as possible according to the retail selling price at
3 place of use of similar products of like quality and character or, in
4 the absence of either of these selling price measures, such value may
5 be determined upon a cost basis, in any event under such rules as the
6 department of revenue may prescribe.

7 (c) In the case of articles owned by a user engaged in business
8 outside the state which are brought into the state for no more than
9 (~~one hundred eighty~~) 180 days in any period of (~~three hundred~~
10 ~~sixty-five~~) 365 consecutive days and which are temporarily used for
11 business purposes by the person in this state, the value of the
12 article used must be an amount representing a reasonable rental for
13 the use of the articles, unless the person has paid tax under this
14 chapter or chapter 82.08 RCW upon the full value of the article used,
15 as defined in (a) of this subsection.

16 (d) In the case of articles manufactured or produced by the user
17 and used in the manufacture or production of products sold or to be
18 sold to the department of defense of the United States, the value of
19 the articles used is determined according to the value of the
20 ingredients of such articles.

21 (e) In the case of an article manufactured or produced for
22 purposes of serving as a prototype for the development of a new or
23 improved product, the value of the article used is determined by: (i)
24 The retail selling price of such new or improved product when first
25 offered for sale; or (ii) the value of materials incorporated into
26 the prototype in cases in which the new or improved product is not
27 offered for sale.

28 (f) In the case of an article purchased with a direct pay permit
29 under RCW 82.32.087, the value of the article used is determined by
30 the purchase price of such article if, but for the use of the direct
31 pay permit, the transaction would have been subject to sales tax.

32 (g) In the case of an article consumed under RCW 82.04.190(3),
33 the value of the article is equal to the sum of all direct costs
34 attributable to the article used, plus a public road construction
35 market adjustment of seven percent when the article is not valued on
36 its purchase price pursuant to (a) of this subsection.

37 (8) "Value of the digital good or digital code used" means the
38 purchase price for the digital good or digital code, the use of which
39 is taxable under this chapter. If the digital good or digital code is
40 acquired other than by purchase, the value of the digital good or

1 digital code must be determined as nearly as possible according to
2 the retail selling price at place of use of similar digital goods or
3 digital codes of like quality and character under rules the
4 department may prescribe.

5 (9) "Value of the extended warranty used" means the purchase
6 price for the extended warranty, the use of which is taxable under
7 this chapter. If the extended warranty is received by gift or under
8 conditions wherein the purchase price does not represent the true
9 value of the extended warranty, the value of the extended warranty
10 used is determined as nearly as possible according to the retail
11 selling price at place of use of similar extended warranties of like
12 quality and character under rules the department may prescribe.

13 (10) "Value of the service used" means the purchase price for the
14 digital automated service or other service, the use of which is
15 taxable under this chapter. If the service is received by gift or
16 under conditions wherein the purchase price does not represent the
17 true value thereof, the value of the service used is determined as
18 nearly as possible according to the retail selling price at place of
19 use of similar services of like quality and character under rules the
20 department may prescribe.

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